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7 **BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER**
8 **FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**
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10 NO. G02-45

11 In the Matter of the Application
12 regarding the Conversion and
13 Acquisition of Premera Blue Cross
14 and its Affiliates

TWENTIETH ORDER: NOTICE
REGARDING APPEALS OF
SPECIAL MASTER'S SECOND
ORDER ON OBJECTIONS TO
REDACTIONS, AND DENIAL OF
PREMERA'S MOTION FOR
EMERGENCY HEARING
REGARDING PUBLICATION OF
REPORTS

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17 On November 24, 2003, the Special Master issued his Second Order on Objections to
18 Premera's "AEO" and "Confidential" Designations. If Premera wishes to appeal to me any
19 portion of the Special Master's Order, it must file its objections to that Order by noon on
20 Tuesday, November 25, 2003. Any opposing party must file their response to those objections
21 by noon on Wednesday, November 26, 2003. To the extent that OIC Staff and Interveners
22 object to redactions in the Special Master's Order, they may file their objections by noon on
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1 November 25, 2003, and any party wishing to reply to those objections may do so by noon on
2 November 26, 2003.¹

3 My Seventh Order appointing the Special Master provided five days for appeal to me of
4 the Special Master's ruling on discovery disputes, and five days for filing oppositions to the
5 appeal. However, that Order was made prior to the Superior Court's setting of March 15, 2003
6 as the final date for my decision in this case. Because of the time constraints created by the
7 March 15 date, it is necessary to shorten the time for filing appeals to me of the Special
8 Master's Second Order on Objections to Premera's "AEO" and "Confidential" Designations,
9 issued November 24, 2003. Additionally, the reports must be made available in sufficient time
10 for review by the public prior to the public hearings which are to commence on December 2,
11 2003.
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14 Premera shall file by noon on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, one electronic version and
15 3 hard copies of Premera's reports and the Hospital Associations' report from Steve Larsen
16 redacted in accordance with the Special Master's Second Order on Objections to Premera's
17 "AEO" and "Confidential" Designations. The filed reports will be further redacted to the
18 extent that any objections to the Special Master's Order are sustained.
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20 There were no issues before the Special Master regarding redactions in the two reports
21 prepared by the University of Washington Health Policy Analysis Program on behalf of all the

22 ¹ The Holding Company Act (RCW 48.31C.020 through 48.31C.050 and 48.31C.070) also provides me
23 with authority to publish such information related to this conversion proceeding as I reasonably deem appropriate
24 if I determine after notice and hearing later in this proceeding that the interests of policyholders, subscribers,
25 members, shareholders, or the public will be served by the publication. Therefore, rulings sustaining Premera's
26 proposed redactions are without prejudice to later disclosure of the redacted material if 1) I determine under RCW
48.31C.130 that such disclosure is appropriate; 2) such material or related material is demonstrated to have been
made public (see Paragraph 6(b), Protective Order); or 3) for other good cause shown.

1 Interveners. The Interveners shall submit one electronic version and three hard copies of these
2 reports by noon on November 25, 2003.

3 For the reasons given by Carol Sureau, Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs, in her
4 letter to Thomas Kelly dated November 21, 2003, Premera's motion for an emergency hearing
5 on his demand that Premera's reports be placed on the OIC website simultaneously with the
6 OIC's expert reports is denied. The letter was sent on my behalf and with my approval. A
7 copy of that letter is attached hereto. As explained in the letter, all of the parties' reports are
8 being placed on the OIC website as soon as the Special Master has completed his review of the
9 parties' objections to redactions made by Premera. Because of the deadlines necessary to
10 conclude this matter and render a decision by March 15, 2003, and the upcoming public
11 testimony hearings to begin on December 2, 2003, the reports are being made available on the
12 OIC website as review of them is completed.
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16 **IT IS SO ORDERED**, this 24th day of November, 2003.
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21 _____
22 MIKE KREIDLER
23 INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
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